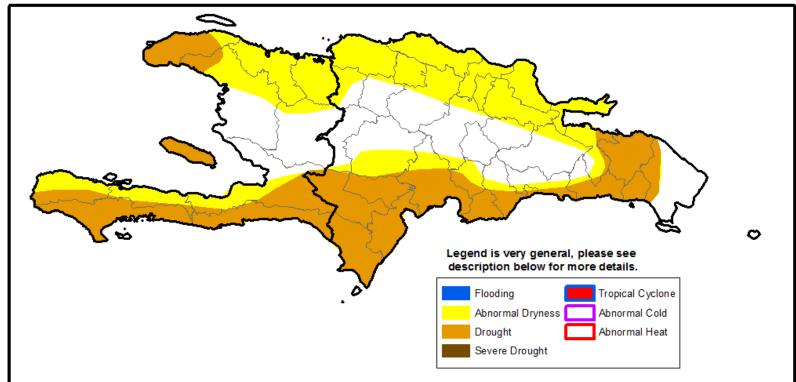


Climate Prediction Center's Hispaniola Hazards Outlook August 20 – August 26, 2015

Dryness strengthens across much of coastal Hispaniola.



For the second consecutive week, increased amounts of precipitation were received across central Haiti while suppressed rains fell over much of coastal Hispaniola. According to satellite rainfall estimates, the highest rainfall accumulations (>100mm) was observed over the Artibonite, Centre and Ouest departments with more moderate (25-50mm) accumulations received throughout several departments in central Dominican Republic. Since the middle of May, unseasonably low amounts of precipitation have led to considerable moisture deficits affecting much of southern and northwestern Haiti and southwestern Dominican Republic. Many local areas in these regions have experienced less than 50 percent of the normal rainfall accumulation for the season, which has already resulted in reduced water availability and has reportedly prompted the local government to declare drought emergency in the Dominican Republic. In Haiti, poor seasonal rains have already negatively affected the livelihoods of many people over several departments of the country. For the upcoming outlook period, forecast models depict an increase in rainfall for parts of southcentral Dominican Republic. However, below-average rainfall remains forecast elsewhere across the island, which is expected to strengthen seasonal moisture deficits for other portions of Haiti and the Dominican Republic. The neighboring passage of tropical disturbance "Danny" may lead to increased rainfall amounts in eastern Hispaniola during the later portion of outlook period.